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December 7, 1786—Young, Leonard & Mary Nance.

February 25, 1789—Young, X, Thos. & Elizb. Nance. (d. of Mary Scales.)

January, 1816—Young, *Ellett* & Martha Kidd. (d. of George.)

March, 1801—Young, Seally & Wylie Adams.

November 9, 1763—Zacary, Nancy & Wm. Blakeley.

June 27, 1787—Zacary, Croford & Alex. Erskine.

November 9, 1763—Zacary, Mary & Ellison Ellis.

COL. AUGUSTINE MOORE,

of "Chelsea," King William Co., Va.

(Communicated by Francis T. A. Junkin.)

In the last number (October, 1907) of this Magazine appeared a communication by Mr. Charles H. Browning, purporting to show that the distinguished Virginian of the eighteenth century, whose name heads this page, could not have been "*the son of a sister of Basil, the son of Thomas More, who married a daughter of Sir Basil Brooke.*"*

* This is a quotation of a memorandum found in 1858 by Col. Wm. Winston Fontaine among the papers of Col. Wm. Aylett. Col. Wm. Aylett was one of the leading citizens and statesmen of Virginia in his day, whose family seat was "Fairfield," King William county, Va. Col. Aylett was born about 1743. He married, 1776, Mary Macon, the daughter of Col. James Macon and granddaughter of Col. Augustine Moore, of "Chelsea." His descendants in Virginia are numerous, bearing the names of *Aylett, Alexander, Anderson, Bruce, Fontaine, Henry, Junkin, Pendleton, Poindexter, Latané, Moore, Rust, Ravenel*, etc., etc. Through his mother, Martha Dandridge, daughter of Capt. Wm. Dandridge, B. N., of "Elsing Green," King William county, and Unity West, his wife, he was descended from Col. John West (1590-1659), Governor of Virginia, and from Sir Thomas West, II. Lord Delaware (born 1577). Member of Virginia Conventions 1775-6, and on May 22, 1776, resigned his seat to accept commission from the American Congress as Deputy Commissary-General of the Forces in Virginia.

The only authorities cited by Mr. Browning are Burke and Foster, and the only material conclusions which he reaches are based solely upon those authors, and are:

The first conclusion—

“This accounts for all of Thomas More’s daughters, Basil’s sisters.”

If Mr. Browning had added—“referred to by Burke or Foster,” his conclusion would have been logical, and perhaps everybody would have agreed with him.

The second conclusion—

“Unless said Thomas More had an illegitimate daughter, who was Col. Moore’s mother, it must be admitted that Col. Aylett’s memorandum throws no light at all on the maternal ancestry of Col. Augustine Moore, of ‘Chelsea’”

Was promoted, and died at Yorktown, 1780, when about thirty-eight years old, in the service of the United States as Deputy Commissary-General of the Southern Department. Col. Aylett was on intimate terms with Gen. Washington. When he visited headquarters, he is said by Charles Campbell, the Virginia historian, to have invariably slept in the General’s tent. He and Washington had been members of the House of Burgesses at the same time. Col. Aylett’s mother and Mrs. Washington were first cousins. Col. Aylett’s brother John married a sister of Mrs. Washington. Elizabeth Macon, sister of Mrs. Aylett, was married to Mrs. Washington’s brother Bartholomew Dandridge. Mrs. Washington’s great-grandfather, Gideon Macon, was Mrs. Aylett’s grandfather. “Fairfield,” Col. Aylett’s home, being on the direct road between Mount Vernon and the White House (Mrs. Washington’s home when she married the second time) and Williamsburg, the Washingtons generally spent several days with their Aylett relations, both going from and returning home. This was also the custom of Thomas Ludwell Lee and Richard Henry Lee, who married respectively Mary Aylett and Anne Aylett, first cousins of Col. Wm. Aylett. Augustine Washington, Gen. Washington’s brother, married Anne Aylett, another first cousin of Col. Wm. Aylett.

If Mr. Browning had used the word "*another*" in place of the word "*illegitimate*," again his conclusion would have been logical, and again he would find no one to question it.*

Mr. Browning assumes that Burke and Foster always mention every child born in wedlock in every pedigree they give. This assumption is fatally weak. Such omissions are common in all genealogical works. There are few, of your Virginia readers at least, who do not know of the notable example in Virginia history—that of Col. John West, above mentioned, who was the Governor and Captain-General of Virginia, and who was a member of its Colonial Council for twenty-nine-years (1630-1659). He was a son of Sir Thomas West, Lord Delaware II. (New Creation); born in Hampshire, England; Bachelor of Arts, Magdalen College, Oxford. His mother was Anne daughter of Sir Francis Knollys, K. G., by Catherine Cary, the first cousin of Queen Elizabeth. He was descended through his father's line from William the Conqueror, and on his mother's through the Plantagenet Kings from Edward I. He was, also, through his paternal line, descended from King Henry III., by his second son Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, whose wife was Blanche, Queen Dowager of Navarre, daughter of Robert I., Count d'Artois, third son of King Louis VIII.

* Col. Wm. Winston Fontaine, on exactly the same facts as Mr. Browning, arrives at a very different conclusion from Mr. Browning, but does not state that he regards Col. Aylett's memorandum as full proof of the descent of Col. Augustine Moore from the Chancellor. In the letter of Col. Fontaine to me of March 13, 1907, to which Mr. Browning in his communication refers, Col. Fontaine says:

"I see from Burke's *Hist. of the Commoners*, Vol. III., p. 551, that Basil More, son of Thomas More and his wife Mary Brooke, had four sisters, (1) Frances, who married George Sheldon; (2) Mary, living unmarried in 1697; (3) Margaret, a nun, who died 24th Dec., 1691; and (4) Bridget, who married Thomas Gifford. *Granting that Col. Aylett's memorandum is correct*, and that Mary More was unmarried as late as 1697, the father of Augustine Moore must have married Frances, the widow of George Sheldon, or Bridget, the widow of Thomas Gifford, *or there must have been another sister not mentioned by Burke*,—which I think is more probable, for he frequently in all his works leaves out the names of many of the children."

of France. He was, also, through his maternal line, descended from the Princely John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, fourth son of King Edward III. And yet Burke does not show that there was such a child as Col. John West, born of Lord Delaware II. and his wife Anne Knollys. It remained, however, for Alexander Brown, Virginia's distinguished historian, to prove in recent years, by indisputable records, in the possession of the English branch of the family, the date and place and very hour of such birth and of his baptism. (See *Magazine of American History*, Vol. IX. p. 463, June Number, 1883.) The array of distinguished witnesses who were present at his baptism would seem to forbid any conclusion that *he* was "illegitimate." (See *Genesis of the United States*, by Alex. Brown, pp. 1045-7.)

Another striking instance of such omission occurs to me: Burke, under the head of "Aylofffe of Braxted Magna," in his work "Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies," (published 1838), says that Sir Benjamin Aylofffe, High Sheriffe of Essex, Eng., under Charles I., married three wives, but had issue only by his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Thomas Fanshawe, Esquire,—such issue being three sons and *one* daughter, naming them. Mr. Browning might, therefore, conclude that if Sir Benjamin had other children they were "illegitimate." The "Visitation of Essex" for 1634 and Morrant's History of Essex County, England, both show that he did have other children, and give the names of *three daughters* in addition to the three sons and one daughter named by Burke. This, of course, does not prove that the old knight was quite a rake, but it does show that no genealogist, however great, can be regarded as exhaustive.

It would seem, therefore, that Mr. Browning's communication "throws no light at all upon the maternal ancestry of Col. Augustine Moore, of Chelsea," and that it remains for those interested to search the records for another child than those mentioned by Burke or Foster, who was "a sister of Basil, the son of Thomas More, who married a daughter of Sir Basil Brooke." It is not unlikely that earnest searchers may be as successful as was Alexander Brown.

That Colonel Augustine Moore was "*the son of a sister of Basil, the son of Thomas More, who married a daughter of Sir Basil Brooke,*" is not, of course, established by Colonel Aylett's memorandum, nor has the writer ever heard of any one who so claimed, or who based upon this memorandum the Moore family tradition that Col. Augustine was sixth in descent from the Lord Chancellor of Henry VIII. That tradition was old in the Moore Family of "Chelsea," King William County, Va., long before the memorandum of Colonel Aylett came to light,* and it seems to have been regarded by them as a belief, whereof the memory of man ran not to the contrary, that "Chelsea," their famous family seat in King William County, was named by Colonel Augustine after the more famous home of his ancestors in England. As Philip Alexander Bruce so clearly points out in his valuable work, *Social Life in Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, this custom of naming the new home in Virginia after the old home in England, was well-nigh universal in Colonial Virginia.

MOTTROM—WRIGHT—SPENCER—ARISS—
BUCKNER.

I JOHN MOTTROM is mentioned as of York (Virginia), 1644. (*Archives of Maryland*, Vol. IV., 269.) He was like most of the other prominent settlers, a merchant, and owned a shallop, mentioned in the York County Records, in which he traded with Maryland. About 1645 he moved to Chicacone—the first settlement on the Virginia side of the Potomac River—where his house became a resort for Protestants inimical to the government of Lord Baltimore in Maryland, who were accused of plotting treason and making Chicacone a basis for their conspiracies. When Northumberland County was formed, in 1645, he represented it that year in the House of Burgesses.

* See statement of this tradition by R. A. Brock in "The Aylett Family," *Richmond Standard*, May 1, 1880.